COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS – PLYMOUTH DISTRICT OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY

MAIN OFFICE:

32 Belmont Street Brockton, MA 02301 Tel: (508) 584-8120

Tel: (508) 584-8120 Fax: (508) 586-3578

TIMOTHY J. CRUZ DISTRICT ATTORNEY

> NEWS RELEASE DECEMBER 22, 2015

CONTACT: BETH STONE (508) 584-8120

MIDDLEBORO WOMAN HELD ON BAIL ON CHARGES SHE KIDNAPPED, ENDANGERED HER MINOR CHILDREN

BROCKTON – A Middleboro woman was held on \$50,000 cash bail for the alleged kidnap and reckless endangerment of her two minor children, Plymouth County District Attorney Timothy J. Cruz announced today.

Valerie J. McGrath (DOB: 01/27/68) of Middleboro, was arraigned today in Wareham District Count on two counts each of Reckless Endangerment of a Child and Kidnapping of a Minor by a Relative. The Commonwealth requested that McGrath be held on \$100,000 cash bail but District Court Judge Therese Wright set bail at \$50,000 cash.

On December 20, 2015 at 6:55 pm, Lakeville Police received a call from a concerned father that his ex-girlfriend and mother of his two children ages 7 and 5, were two hours late from an agreed upon day visit and had not returned. At 8:46 pm, Lakeville Police put out a description of the vehicle McGrath and the children were travelling in and issued pictures of the three missing.

Investigators developed information that McGrath made several cell phone calls to relatives throughout the day Monday and abandoned her Range Rover she had been travelling and rented a car with New York license plates at a Hertz Rental Car in Fall River.

At around 6:00 p.m. Monday, a State Trooper recognized McGrath and the children from their description at a McDonald's at Routes 495 and 138 in Raynham and she was placed under arrest.

McGrath is next scheduled to appear in court on January 20, 2016.

Assistant District Attorney Dan Jimenez is prosecuting the case, which was investigated by Lakeville Police Department.

###